

rearing, communal dining, the spartan existence, and the rejection of material values of personal significance, and so forth, which characterize the commune particularly during the bund stage.

As the bund stage shifts to the commune stage, familistic values gain not only in legitimacy but in salience in the value hierarchy of each individual. Talmon provides nice measures of these shifts. Her analysis of this process over time is superb. Indeed, the step-by-step analysis of the role of ideology in reforming norms, the role of norms in reforming value-attitudes, and the role of social action both as cause and consequence, but by no means simply one or the other, is one of the most valuable features of this book.

Of particularly timely interest is Talmon's finding on the part women play in undermining the revolutionary orientation and especially that part of it that affirms the equality of the sexes. As the kibbutz changes from bund to commune, the number of persons showing more and more concern with familistic and individualistic goals increases, and it continues to increase. But it is the women who take the lead in reaffirming the values of family, in undermining the communal child care and rearing centers, and in affirming the rights of the individual to creature comforts and to special forms of personal gratification, at the same time themselves slipping back to the inferior position of women within the whole system. Not only are women more willing to take on menial jobs for the sake of the family and the children, but in Israel they have ample support from the religious system in this, and are correspondingly more willing to accept a subordinate position in the family itself. In its own special way, the evidence here supports those in the women's liberation movement who see the family as one, if not the major, source of sex role inequality.

One of the most illuminating analyses in the book concerns the interesting finding that those who have been reared in the same peer group in the same commune almost never intermarry, although exogamy is not normatively enjoined. Is this an incest taboo in the making? Not at all, says Talmon, and she shows why in a chapter on mate selection. Similarly interesting is the finding that there is no formation of elites despite the increasingly high degree of functional differentiation as time goes on.

It goes without saying that the ideology of the kibbutz is very close to that of a host of other such communal organizations whether in contemporary America, earlier periods of American history, or in certain European variants. Hence the relevance of this study of the Israeli phenomenon goes far beyond that small country.

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## Coastland

**Ecology of Salt Marshes and Sand Dunes.** D. S. RANWELL. Chapman and Hall, London, 1973 (U.S. distributor, Halsted [Wiley], New York). xiv, 258 pp., illus. \$14.50.

Public awareness of the value of salt marshes has coincided with increased contamination of coastal waters, heightened development of marshlands, and generally increased human activities of sorts in coastal areas.

This not only applies to the United States but seems to embrace much of the world. D. S. Ranwell writes in a highly readable way about salt marshes and dunes which he studied extensively in Britain, though the book is not restricted to that coast.

"Salt marshes are the product of land erosion and therefore an expanding resource. It is no accident that the greater part of the world's population derives its food from the great deltas, largely in the form of fish and rice." This quotation is taken from section 4, devoted to the management of salt marsh and sand dune wildlife resources. That Ranwell sees as a major management problem the creation of marshes on previously open flats is a comment on the ability of the hybrid *Spartina anglica* to spread into suitable habitats. Although marshes expand on our coast as well, we are destroying them faster and would think of marsh management from this aspect. Both aspects are discussed by Ranwell.

The book was written to be read, not only referred to occasionally for needed facts. Despite occasional truisms and use of unnecessary ecological jargon, such as "therophyte" for "annual species," Ranwell has succeeded in his aim to make the book easily understandable to students, research workers, and even the general public.

The book is designed more along the lines of a textbook than of a trade volume, but it is clear and concise and passes the barrier between the two.

Ranwell has included a good summary of the literature from both sides of the Atlantic on most aspects of dunes and marshes. A few omissions, such as the lack of an adequate explanation for the function of air spaces in marsh plants, mentioned several times, are notable. A report of work on the effects of management on the beach and dune systems of the barrier islands around Cape Hatteras would have added to the section on management, but the work may well have been too recent for inclusion. These, however, are minor criticisms against a basically sound book.

The volume covers the plant ecology and geology of marshes and dunes with some completeness. Not a great deal is written about the animals of these environments, but, as the author points out in relation to the dunes, what the animals do and where they do it has not been well worked out.

Probably the effects of most animals on the marsh and dune systems are not very great. The important animals are man, domestic cattle and sheep, and rabbits, whose abundance is also greatly influenced by man. The effects of these animals are discussed in the balanced section on management, which should also serve as a useful summary of practices and their effects for people who have to make the actual decisions about the future of these limited resources.

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## Environmental Physiology

**Physiological Adaptations.** Desert and Mountain. A symposium, Las Vegas, Nev., April 1971. MOHAMED K. YOUSEF, STEVEN M. HORVATH, and ROBERT W. BULLARD, Eds. Academic Press, New York, 1972. xiv, 258 pp., illus. \$14.50. Environmental Sciences.

This volume, dedicated to David Bruce Dill on his 80th birthday, is a tribute to that early pioneer, who has been a continuous contributor to environmental and exercise physiology for more than four decades. Appropriately, this collection of papers includes contributions from some of